

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 732

By Evans

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Reverend Phil Martin for twenty years of meritorious service to the Metro Baptist Church in Goodlettsville.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that this legislative body should honor those individuals who have answered a divine call to the ministry and who have served with dedication, vigor, and enthusiasm to perform God's work for their congregations and their communities; and

WHEREAS, one such committed pastor and church leader is Reverend Phil Martin, who has faithfully led the flock at the Metro Baptist Church in Goodlettsville for twenty years; and

WHEREAS, born on November 18, 1953, in Illinois, Reverend Martin was raised in Southern California and gave his heart to the Lord at the tender age of six; and

WHEREAS, an assiduous scholar, Phil Martin earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Christian Education from Hyles-Anderson College and his Master of Arts degree in Biblical Studies from Baptist Christian University; he also received an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Tennessee Temple University; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Martin was joined in holy matrimony with his college sweetheart and love of his life, Beverly, on August 21, 1976; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from college, he moved to Oklahoma City to begin his pastoral career as the Assistant Pastor of Windsor Hills Baptist Church and as a Bible Professor and Dean of the Oklahoma Baptist College; and

WHEREAS, standing as a shining example of love and forgiveness, Reverend Martin tirelessly contributed his time and tremendous talents as the Associate Pastor at First Baptist Church in Long Beach, California from 1980 until 1983; and

WHEREAS, as the Senior Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Los Alamitos, California, Phil Martin worked diligently to provide hope and communicate God's love to his congregants

and his community, growing the flock from an average attendance of sixty to well over 400 worshipers; and

WHEREAS, since taking the helm at the Metro Baptist Church in Goodlettsville in March of 1992, Reverend Martin has served with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love, using his gifts of teaching and preaching the Word to share his faith with his community; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Martin is thankful for the loving companionship of his beloved wife; their daughters and sons-in-law, Heather and Ryan, Courtney and Dewayne, and Lindsay and Stephen; and their four grandchildren, Addisyn, Branson, Mady, and Mason; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Phil Martin truly exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of true Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable twenty years as a humble servant of God, Reverend Martin has demonstrated the utmost ability and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his friends, his family, and the many members of the Metro Baptist Church in Goodlettsville; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and recognize Reverend Phil Martin for twenty years of meritorious service to the Metro Baptist Church in Goodlettsville, salute his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living a Christian life with courage and conviction, and extend to him our best wishes for every continued success in his fruitful ministry.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.